

## NIMRODS OLD NIM.

## The Petaluma Pot Hunter Tells a Story of a Wondrous Chase.

Frank Timins, the Petaluma pot hunter, had the floor, and the crowd breathlessly awaited a thrilling story of the chase.

"You want a story of the chase, eh?" repeated Timins. "Well, I'll tell you about the greatest bit of chasin I ever did in my life. I wuz out huntin one day fer quail with my ole muzzle loadin shotgun, when three quail jumped up out of a bush right ahead of me. One flew to the right, one to the left and the other straight ahead, but I got 'em all three."

"Killed three quail going in different directions with a muzzle loading shotgun?" repeated one of his listeners incredulously.

"Yep; that's what I done."

"Your gun must have had three barrels then."

"Nop; only two."

"How did you do it?"

"Well, I killed the one that went to the right with the right barrel; then, quick as a flash, I killed the one that went to the left with the other barrel; then I took after the one that went straight ahead and knocked the stuffin out of it with the ramrod."

"I wouldn't believe that if I told it myself," declared one of the assemblage.

"Huh! That ain't nothin. I killed six quail with one barrel once, and they wuz all flyin in different directions."

"Run 'em all down?"

"Nop; never moved out o' my tracks. When they all started out o' the same bunch of grass, I held the gun away over to the right, and as it went off I swep' it aronn to the left. The result was that I slung shot in every direction, same as you can sling water outen a pan, and a little of the shot ketched ev'ry one."—San Francisco Post.

## Tides In the Atmosphere.

Distinct tides in the atmosphere, corresponding to those of the sea and produced twice daily by lunar attraction, have been traced by M. Bouquet de la Grye in the barometric records of stations removed from powerful local disturbances. The recorded observations of Brest, St. Helena, Cape Horn, Batavia and Singapore give positive evidence of a regular ebb and flow according to the moon's position. The effect is slight, but measurable, the greatest atmospheric tide at Brest being shown by a movement of one-quarter of an inch in a water barometer, which is equivalent to about one-fiftieth of an inch in the mercury barometer. The tide seems to bear about the same ratio to the weight of the atmosphere that the sea tide bears to the depth of the ocean.

## Three Books.

A leading literary light in one of the best known woman's colleges says that there are just three books that everybody should know by heart—"The Arabian Nights," "Alice In Wonderland" and "Mother Goose." "A thorough knowledge of those masterpieces," she says, "will do more toward cultivating the imagination than any other process that I know of. And I regard imagination as the most important of all mental faculties." This is in direct and significant opposition to the ideas held by many parents and teachers that fairy tales are injurious reading for the young.—New York Sun.

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